23IST

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS OF MEDFIELD

For the Year ending January 31, 1882.

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BOSTON:

GEORGE H. ELLIS, 141 FRANKLIN STREET.

1882.

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GEORGE H. ELLIS, 141 FRANKLIN STREET.

1882.

TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1881.

Town Clerk.

CHARLES C. SEWALL.

Selectmen.

HAMLET WIGHT. GEORGE W. KINGSBURY. WM. F. GUILD.

Assessors.

WM. F. GUILD. HAMLET WIGHT. A. B. PARKER.

Overseers of the Poor.

G. W. KINGSBURY. AMOS E. MASON. CHARLES E. BAKER.

Treasurer. ISAAC FISKE.

Collector. MOSES H. JOHNSON.

Auditor. PHILIP MATHEWSON.

School Committee.

J. B. HALE,	Term expires		1884.
WM. S. TILDEN,	"	"	1883.
WM. F. GUILD,	"	"	1882.

Board of Health.

DR. J. H. RICHARDSON. DR. C. M. FULLER. OLIVER CLIFFORD.

Surveyors of Highways.

A. B. PARKER. CHARLES H. RUSSELL. H. G. CROSBY.
HAMLET WIGHT. J. G. WIGHT. G. W. KINGSBURY.

Constables.

CHARLES HAMANT. H. F. BULLARD.
GEORGE D. HAMANT. R. W. SHERMAN.

Trustees of Public Library.

J. H. RICHARDSON,	Term expires		1882.
ISAAC FISKE,	"	"	1883.
GEORGE CUMMINGS.			
GEORGE R. CHASE,	"	"	1884.
GRANVILLE PIERCE.			

Trustees of School Fund.

ISAAC FISKE. JOSEPH H. BAKER. HAMLET WIGHT.

Sexton.

A. B. PARKER.

Cemetery Committee.

SELECTMEN AND SEXTON.

Fence Viewers.

JAMES M. HEWINS. PHILIP MATHEWSON. H. F. BULLARD.

Field Drivers.

HENRY J. DUNN. ALBERT J. BABCOCK. W. E. KINGSBURY.
HERBERT HUTSON. HENRY F. HARDING. JAMES B. BUSSEY.

Pound Keeper.

GEORGE D. HAMANT.

APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN.

Engineers.

F. E. MASON. JOHN W. SHUMWAY. A. B. PARKER.

Measurer of Wood and Sealer of Weights aud Measures.

THOMAS L. BARNEY.

Weighers.

T. L. BARNEY. JOHN ORD, Jr.

Police.

GEORGE R. KEYES. BENNETT WILSON.

Auditor to fill Vacancy.

THOMAS L. BARNEY.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

THE Selectmen of Medfield respectfully present the Annual Report of the finances of the town for the year ending Jan. 31, 1882: —

Total receipts by Treasurer,	$16,191.44

PAYMENTS BY TREASURER.

NOTES.

Paid Catharine Hartshorn, note in part,	$25.00
R. E. Sherman, note in full,	175.00
Cynthia Clark, note in full,	50.00
	$250.00

INTEREST.

Paid Catharine Hartshorn,	$6.00
Cynthia Clark,	6.37
F. D. Ellis,	120.00
R. E. Sherman,	11.13
Trustees of school fund,	171.91
	$315.41

STATE AID.

Paid Cyrus D. Strang,	$54.00
Mary A. Kingsbury,	48.00
Mary A. Howard,	48.00
	$150.00

AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS.

Paid E. G. Babcock,	$70.50

TEACHING SCHOOLS.

Paid C. N. Bentley,	$820.00
Miss E. M. Bowers,	342.00
S. N. Bentley,	162.00
Miss L. D. Richards,	348.00
Mrs. M. B. A. Dunn,	357.00
Charles F. Merrick,	135.00
Town of Norfolk, schooling children of D. Hagerty,	11.85
	$2,175.85

FUEL, CARE, AND SUPPLIES.

Paid George M. Gilmore, care of South School-house, .	$22.35
Mrs. E. G. Babcock, cleaning South School-house,	1.75
William F. Guild, wood, etc., for South School, .	30.25
John Ord, care of Centre School-house, . . .	114.50
Gould & Co., coal for Centre School, ...	197.00
W. E. Newell, care of North School-house, . .	37.50
A. E. Mason, wood for North School, ...	30.50
Mrs. McGrory, cleaning North School-house, . .	1.60
J. B. Hale, record book and supplies, ...	32.28
J. B. Hale, supplementary readers, ...	29.12
George R. Keyes, five maps, ...	3.00
James Ord, brooms, brushes, etc., ...	7.42
I. Fiske, supplies, ...	3.50
	$510.77

REPAIRS AND FURNISHING SCHOOL-HOUSES.

Paid Charles F. Bruce, stock and labor, North, . . .	$4.50
School committee, exchange of books, ...	42.12
O. M. Perrigo, repairs of clocks, ...	3.50
New York and New England Railroad, freight on settees for Centre School-house, ...	1.30
Wm. S. Tilden, repairing organ, Centre School-house, ...	1.50
A. G. Whitcomb, settees for Centre School-house,	31.68
Gardner Chilson estate, furnace, Centre School-house, ...	90.00
Hamlet Wight, removing partition, Centre School-house, ...	5.00
George Davis, labor on Centre School-house, . .	2.00
Lowell Babcock, painting, ...	26.29
N. F. Harding, repairs, ...	53.11
	$261.00

Balance in treasury for schools, Feb. 1, 1881, ...	$1,012.62
Appropriation by Town, ...	2,400.00
Income of State School Fund, ...	170.44
Income of Town School Fund, ...	239.04
Dog Licenses, ...	139.25
	$3,961.35
Expended for Schools, ...	2,686.62
Balance to Credit of Schools, Feb. 1, 1882, ...	$1,274.73

TOWN-HOUSE EXPENSES.

Paid	Johnson Bros., care,	$81.05
	Johnson Bros., kerosene oil,	17.84
	E. T. Everett, care,	27.87
	J. A. Fitts, kerosene oil,	5.72
	Gould & Co., coal,	30.50
	R. Hollings, chimneys,	2.00
	Fred M. Smith, placards,	1.50
	Wm. Ryan, repairs,	2.25
	Lowell Babcock, painting and glazing,	37.83
	Lowell Babcock, stock and labor in post-office,	25.00
	J. B. Hale, stock and labor in post-office,	5.78
	James Ord, lamps, burners, etc.,	1.15
	N. F. Harding, repairs,	4.15
		$242.64

HIGHWAYS.

Paid	A. B. Parker, surveyor,	$223.59
	H. G. Crosby, "	211.22
	J. G. Wight, "	222.02
	C. H. Russell, "	200.00
	Geo. W. Kingsbury, surveyor,	184.36
	Hamlet Wight, "	178.54
	A. B. Parker, widening Main Street,	50.00
		$1,269.73

BRIDGES.

Paid	N. F. Harding, for plank,	$55.74
	John Noonan, labor on cattle pass, Adams Ave.,	21.40
	Thomas Rourke, labor on cattle pass, Adams Ave.,	10.50
	Hamlet Wight, stone and labor on cattle pass, Adams Ave.,	57.90
	A. B. Parker, building culvert on Main Street,	33.00
	Geo. W. Kingsbury, grading around town pump and repairing culvert,	27.10
		$205.64

CLEARING ROADS OF SNOW.

Paid	J. G. Wight, surveyor,	$71.62
	Hamlet Wight, "	32.43
	J. H. Brigham, "	22.25
	C. H. Russell, "	15.30
	G. W. Kingsbury, "	8.85
	Chas. Dunn, "	7.05
		$157.50

NEW STREETS.

Paid J. R. Smith and Ann Bacon, land damage, . . .	$180.00
Heirs of Joseph Miller, land damage, ...	250.00
Chas. H. Russell, grading, ...	300.00
N. F. Harding, labor and stock for railing, . . .	30.00
	$760.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Charles E. Hale, Clerk of Hook and Ladder Company, services of company, ...	$128.33
B. F. Crehore, Clerk of Engine Company, services of men, ...	208.25
E. A. Rhodes, care of truck and room, ...	6.25
E. T. Everett, care of engine and room, ...	29.60
E. T. Everett, 1 ladder, ...	1.25
F. E. Mason, services as engineer, ...	12.00
J. H. Baker & Co., repairs of engine and truck, .	46.60
Parker's Express, lamps, express, etc., ...	7.25
L. M. Richards, coal and wood, ...	5.88
H. G. Crosby, use of team, ...	10.00
J. A. Fitts, kerosene oil and hammer, ...	2.35
	$457.76

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Trustees, as per vote of town, ...	$300.00

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid expenses at Almshouse, ...	$1,566.09
Paid expenses out of Almshouse, ...	480.23

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Chas. C. Sewall, for services as Clerk to March, 1882, ...	$30.00
Hamlet Wight, for services as selectman to March, 1882, ...	60.00
Geo. W. Kingsbury, for services as selectman to March, 1882, ...	50.00
Wm. F. Guild, for services as selectman to March, 1882, ...	50.00
Wm. F. Guild, for services as Assessor to March, 1882, ...	30.00
Amount carried forward, ...	$220.00

Amount brought forward, ...	$220.00
Hamlet Wight, for services as Assessor to March, 1882, ...	25.00
A. B. Parker, for services as Assessor to March, 1882, ...	17.00
Geo. W. Kingsbury, for services as Overseer of the Poor to March, 1882, ...	25.00
A. E. Mason, for services as Overseer of the Poor to March, 1882, ...	25.00
C. E. Baker, for services as Overseer of the Poor to March, 1882, ...	15.00
Isaac Fiske, for services as Treasurer to March, 1882, ...	50.00
J. B. Hale, for services as School Committee to March, 1881, ...	50.00
Wm. S. Tilden, for services as School Committee to March, 1881, ...	25.00
Philip Mathewson, auditing accounts, 1881, . .	5.00
H. F. Bullard, Constable, 1880, ...	7.00
M. H. Johnson, Collector, in full for 1879, . .	7.20
M. H. Johnson, Collector, in part for 1880, . .	60.87
M. H. Johnson, Collector, in part for 1881, . .	50.00
	$582.07

Paid Abatement of Taxes for 1879, ...	$23.60
" " " 1880, ...	49.84
" " " 1881, ...	5.00
	$78.44

INCIDENTAL.

Paid C. C. Sewall, recording births, marriages, and deaths, ...	$13.55
C. C. Sewall, attendance at Dover, ...	2.00
C. C. Sewall, express, postage, and stationery, .	1.84
Wm. Kingsbury, damage to carriage, ...	5.00
H. P. Taber, " " "	10.00
Geo. H. Ellis, printing 500 Town Reports, . . .	36.00
Geo. H. Ellis, Order Book, ...	5.00
Henry Onion, plans and surveying, ...	57.50
State Treasurer, balance on Corporation Tax, .	109.11
State Treasurer, State Tax, 1881, ...	840.00
Amount carried forward, ...	$1,080.00

Amount brought forward,	$1,080.00
Medway Tax, 1881,	4.90
Walpole Tax, 1881,	1.30
S. J. Spear, printing and stationery,	11.05
Wm. S. Tilden, expense in procuring teachers,	2.85
J. H. Baker & Co., repairing sleigh hearse,	2.50
S. C. Taft, civil engineering,	6.00
J. A. Fitts, merchandise,	6.05
H. M. Parker, express,	4.95
J. B. Hale, writing lease and deed,	1.50
Doane & Greenough, register for voters,	2.50
O. M. Perrigo, care of town clock and repairs one year, to November, 1881,	40.00
D. Hoisington, exchange of library stove, $12.50; repairs on stove, $3.50,	16.00
James Ord, dipper and chain for town pump,	.50
D. D. Curtis, lumber for platform and watering-trough,	5.00
H. F. Bullard, labor on platform and watering-trough,	7.50
Wm. Ryan, ironing watering-trough,	3.00
W. F. Guild, stationery and postage,	1.95
A. B. Parker, returning 25 deaths,	6.25
	$1,203.80
Total Receipts,	$16,191.44
Total Payments,	11,037.43
	$5,154.01

RESOURCES.

Balance in Treasury, Feb. 1, 1882, less $100, legacy of Mary T. Derby, in trust,	$5,054.01
Due from taxes of 1880,	426.97
Due from taxes of 1881,	1,770.65
Due on account of Military Aid to Jan. 1, 1882,	183.75
	$7,435.38

LIABILITIES.

Note due F. D. Ellis,	$2,000.00
Note due Polly Russell,	100.00
Notes due Catharine Hartshorn,	150.00
Notes due Trustees of School Funds,	3,410.20
Due heirs of Moses Bullard for land damage,	112.00
	$5,772.20
Resources exceed Liabilities,	$1,663.18

The town-way, as laid out and accepted by the town from Main Street to Pleasant Street, has been graded, railing built, bounds set at the angles, and land damages paid, with the exception of $12 awarded to heirs of Moses Bullard. The first section, beginning on the southerly side of Main Street on land taken of the Old Colony Railroad Co.,— first course 123.5 feet, bearing S. 17° 20′ E.; thence 440.35 feet, bearing S. 25° 25′ E.; thence 887.35 feet, bearing S. 33° 35′ E.,— we have named Park Street; and thence 555.7 feet, bearing N. 56° 10′ E., to the terminus on the westerly side of Pleasant Street, the second section, we have named Oak Street.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1881 RAISED BY TAX.

For Schools,	$2,400
Support of Poor,	1,200
Roads and Bridges,	1,200
General Expenses,	1,400
Public Library,	300
Total,	$6,500

Respectfully submitted,

HAMLET WIGHT,
GEORGE W. KINGSBURY,
WILLIAM F. GUILD,
Selectmen of Medfield.

MEDFIELD, Feb. 1, 1882.

Dr. ISAAC FISKE, *Treasurer*, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF MEDFIELD. *Cr.*

Receipts.

To balance in the Treasury, Feb. 1, 1881,	$3,526.29
Cash in full for taxes of 1879,	329.32
" " interest on taxes of 1879,	71.29
On taxes of 1880,	1,375.00
On taxes of 1881,	5,985.00
Corporation tax, 1881,	1,068.76
National Bank tax, 1881,	567.00
Military Aid,	318.50
Interest on deposits,	19.00
Legacy, Mrs. Derby (in trust),	100.00
Rent of Town Hall,	207.00
Rent of stores in Town House,	456.11
Interest on Town School Fund,	239.04
Interest from State School Fund,	170 44
For dog licenses,	139.25
From estate of Sarah J. Clark,	43.20
Borrowed of Trustees of School Fund,	545.00
For wood from Town Farm,	98.75
For milk from Town Farm,	750.65
For hay from Town Farm,	44.20
For pork from Town Farm,	59 85
For potatoes from Town Farm,	5.70
For fowls from Town Farm,	1.67
For barbed wire,	7.92
For cultivator and plough,	10.00
For cranberries,	52.50
	$16,191.44

Payments.

By Cash paid on notes,	$250.00
As interest,	315.41
As State aid,	150.00
For indigent sailors and soldiers,	70.50
For teaching schools,	2,175.85
For fuel, supplies, and care of houses,	510.77
For repairs and furnishing houses,	261.00
On account of Town House,	242.64
For repairs of highways,	1,269.73
For repairs of bridges,	205.64
For clearing roads of snow,	157.50
For grading road from Main to Pleasant Street,	300.00
For railing, etc.,	30.00
For land damages,	430.00
On account of Fire Department,	457.76
For support of poor at Almshouse,	1,566.09
For support of poor out of Almshouse,	480.23
On account of Public Library,	300.00
Town officers,	582.07
Incidental expenses,	1,203.80
Abatement of taxes for 1879,	23.60
Abatement of taxes for 1880,	49.84
Abatement of taxes for 1881,	5.00
	$11,037.43
Balance in Treasury, Feb. 1, 1882,	5,154.01
	$16,191.44

I have examined the above accounts of the Treasurer of the Town of Medfield, and find them correct.

T. L. BARNEY, *Auditor.*

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

M. H. JOHNSON, *Collector for* 1879, 1880, *and* 1881, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF MEDFIELD.

Dr.		*Cr.*	
1879.		1879.	
To Uncollected Tax, Feb. 1, 1881, .	$314.92	By Taxes paid Treasurer in full, . .	$329.32
Addition to commitment, . . .	14.40	Interest paid Treasurer in full, .	71.29
Interest collected, ...	71 29		
	$400.61		$400.61
1880.		1880.	
		By Taxes paid Treasurer, ...	$1,375.00
		Uncollected Tax, ...	426.97
To Uncontrolled Tax, Feb. 1, 1881, .	$1,801.97		$1,801.97
1881.		1881.	
		By Taxes paid Treasurer, ...	$5,985.00
		Taxes paid County, ...	681.81
		Uncollected Tax, ...	1,770.65
To Commitment for 1881, ...	$8,437.46		$8,437.46

MEDFIELD, Feb. 1., 1882.

M. H. JOHNSON, *Collector*.

I have examined the above accounts, and find the same to be correct.

T. L. BARNEY, *Auditor*.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

We respectfully present the following report of the condition of this department: —

Amount of Appraisal, Feb. 1, 1881,	$2,113.00
Amount of Appraisal, Feb. 1, 1882,	2,334.37
Gain,	$261.37

CASH PAYMENTS BY THE TREASURER.

William W. Wheelock, toward horse-sled,	$26.25
E. C. Bullard, stock and labor on ice-house,	26.72
G. W. Winship, blacksmithing,	3.50
Johnson Brothers, groceries,	53.55
Overseers, filling ice-house,	9.80
E. A. Wheeler, cutting ice,	7.00
William W. Wheelock, salary in full to April 1, 1881,	167.00
William W. Wheelock, soap,	4.25
E. W. Kingsbury, labor on ice-house,	7.72
Overseers, for four shoats and clothes-wringer,	24.50
Gould & Co., grain,	139.59
Gould & Co., flour,	28.00
Gould & Co., fertilizer and plaster,	17.99
Joseph Breck & Sons, barbed wire,	16.61
Joseph Breck & Sons, tools,	12.67
George F. Miller, labor on ice-house,	4.35
H. M. Parker, five cords of manure,	37.50
G. W. Kingsbury, plank and labor on ice-house,	7.00
Thomas Voss, cutting wood,	50.00
G. D. Everett, for barley,	4.72
A. W. Shumway, meat,	6.37
W. W. Wheelock, fencing of N. Y. & N. E. R.R.,	9.00
W. W. Wheelock, salary to Feb. 1, 1882,	416.70
Peter Gallagher, difference in cow trade,	35.00
William Ryan, blacksmithing,	28.15
George W. Kingsbury, grinding corn,	8.87
Amount carried forward,	$1,152.81

Amount brought forward,	$1,152.81
Frank Rhodes, fish and oysters,	12.82
Frank Rhodes, bread and crackers,	13.25
George H. Wight, making cider for 1880,	2.78
E. E. Newell, meat and vegetables,	31.14
J. A. Fitts, groceries, etc.,	102.41
James Ord, paper-hangings, etc.,	4.01
H. P. Tabor, one plough,	15.00
G. D. Everett, shorts and scraps,	26.00
Charles F. Bruce, five pigs,	16.00
D. Hoisington, repairs, pump, and tin-ware,	5.67
N. F. Harding, lumber,	10.28
I. Fiske, supplies,	16.01
G. M. Hanks, supplies,	28.17
T. L. Barney, supplies,	40.09
L. M. Richards, coal and lime,	30.50
E. Bullard, meat,	41.15
Richard Haitt, rent of pasture two years,	11.00
Richard Haitt, service of bull,	2.50
Moses C. Adams, service of bull,	4.50
	$1,566.09

CASH RECEIPTS BY TREASURER.

FROM THE TOWN FARM.

Received from the Overseers for	
Milk,	$750.65
Wood,	98.75
Hay,	44.20
Pork,	59.85
Cranberries,	52.50
Cultivator and plough,	10.00
Barbed wire,	7.92
Fowls,	1.67
Potatoes,	5.70
Estate of Sarah J. Clark,	43.20
	$1,074.44
Total Payments by Treasurer,	$1,566.09
Due on cow trade,	70.00
	$1,636.09

Total Receipts by Treasurer, ...	$1,074.44
Gain of Appraisal from last year, ...	261.37
Providing for twenty-five tramps, ...	5.00
	$1,340.81
Payments exceed Receipts, ...	$295.28

Paupers in Almshouse, ... 2.

Silas Allen, 87 years.
Arthur Bailey, 27 years.
Average number of paupers, 2.
Average cost per week, $2.74.

Support of the poor out of the Almshouse: —

Worcester Lunatic Asylum, board of Susan M. Bullard,	$172.39
Taunton Lunatic Asylum, board of Joseph H. Harding,	111.15
Taunton Lunatic Asylum, board of William Clark, .	180.19
Aid furnished Mrs. Harriet Hunt, ...	15.00
Aid furnished C. A. Kingsbury, ...	1.50
	$480.23

GEO. W. KINGSBURY,
A. E. MASON,
C. E. BAKER,
} *Overseers of the Poor.*

REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Cash in hands of Committee, Feb. 1, 1881, ...	$58.30
Cash received, for lots sold, ...	100.00
Cash received, for hay sold, ...	3.00
	$161.30
Paid Peter Ross for 144 corner-stones for lots, . . .	$93.60
for setting same, ...	9.75
Joseph Clark, labor mowing, ...	15.55
John Kingsbury, labor cleaning, ...	7.65
	$126.55
Balance in hands of Committee, Feb. 1, 1882, . . .	$34.75

Respectfully submitted,

HAMLET WIGHT,
GEORGE W. KINGSBURY,
WILLIAM F. GUILD,
A. B. PARKER,
} *Committee.*

REPORT OF ENGINEERS.

To the Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen,— We beg leave to report our department in good condition.

The Engine and Hook and Ladder Companies are well officered, well organized, and ready to respond to every call of duty.

MEDFIELD FIRE ENGINE CO., No. 1.

Foreman.
P. C. Grover.

First Assistant.
T. F. Barney.

Second Assistant.
F. M. Smith.

Steward.
E. T. Everett.

Clerk and Treasurer.
B. F. Crehore.

Number of members, including officers, ... 26

EXCELSIOR HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY, No. 1.

Foreman.
E. Bullard.

First Assistant.
E. Franks.

Second Assistant.
W. F. Harding.

Clerk.
C. E. Hale.

Treasurer.
George Pettis.

Steward.
E. L. Chenery.

Number of members, including officers, ... 12

We have had no fires to record the past year, and may we never have any more. So say we all of us.

F. E. MASON,
J. W. SHUMWAY, } *Engineers.*
A. B. PARKER,

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL FUND.

The subscribers respectfully submit the following report of the condition of the Medfield School Fund, Feb. 1, 1882 : —

Note given by	Charles Lambert,	secured by	mortgage of			$100.00
"	"	Sarah A. Chickering,	"		"	250.00
"	"	Town of	Medfield	of		1,996.20
"	"	"	"	"		375.00
"	"	"	"	"		394.00
"	"	"	"	"		100.00
"	"	"	"	"		545.00
					Total,	$3,760.20

ISAAC FISKE,
JOSEPH H. BAKER,
HAMLET WIGHT,
} *Trustees.*

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The most marked event in the history of the Library during the period covered by this report is the death of George Cummings. He gave more for the support of the Library during his life than any other person has given. For this let him have all praise. During the year, the Library has received $100 from his estate, and $1,000 as a fund, the income of which may be used perpetually.

Though Mr. Cummings has gone from our number never to return, yet may we profit by his example, and may many carry on the work of sustaining the Library which he helped to found, cherished, and always loved.

The Library is and should be considered an educator. With the co-operation of the School Committee, teachers, Librarian, and Trustees, the Library may do its highest work. The young should be encouraged to read *something*, and helped at a time when their taste is forming to choose the *best*.

A strong plea was put forth in a former report for the use of the Library as a reading-room. No objection except that of expense can be alleged against the experiment.

It is estimated that the percentage of fiction read by the patrons of the Library will not exceed sixty-six and two-thirds per cent. of all the books read. This is a good showing. A statement from year to year for purposes of comparison and made from a more careful examination than time has now allowed would be of interest.

Observation has proved in many instances that taste in reading improves and rises from a lower to a higher grade.

Let nothing, however, that has been written be considered an apology for the reading of fiction. A judicious use of proper works of fiction has been characteristic of the best minds that have lived.

Channing has written of himself that in early manhood he spent

much of his time in shedding *real tears* over the *imaginary troubles of imaginary persons.* Yet it is scarcely necessary to mention that Channing took rank with the best preachers of his age.

The proper use of fiction depends necessarily largely upon the discretion of the reader, the proper selection upon those to whom is intrusted the purchase of books. It has been the first aim of the Trustees to allow nothing pernicious to enter the Library; and, secondly, to procure the highest class of books which would interest the *average* reader.

Respectfully submitted for the Trustees,

GEO. R. CHASE.

ISAAC FISKE, *Treasurer*, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Receipts.			*Payments.*		
1881.			1881.		
Feb. 1.	To balance in the Treasury,	$104.15	Feb. 1.	By cash paid for 288 vols., .	$280.28
Dec. 6.	To cash of Town Treasurer,	300.00	Dec. 6.	By cash paid for binding, .	31.00
Dec. 19.	To cash, estate of George Cummings, ...	100.00	Dec. 19.	By cash paid for express and postage, ...	4.20
1882.			1882.		
Jan. 17.	To cash of the Librarian, .	31.00	Jan. 17.	By cash paid Librarian, . .	75.00
		$535.15			$390.48
			Balance, Feb. 1, 1882, $144.67.		

REGISTRAR'S REPORT.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS REGISTERED IN MEDFIELD DURING THE YEAR 1881.

MARRIAGES.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	BY WHOM MARRIED.
Feb. 2	Charles M. Fuller, M.D., Lilian Johnson (*née* Bates),	Medfield, Medfield,	Rev. Geo. H. Pratt.
Feb. 13	Ruel A. Rockwood, Nellie A. Camp,	Bellingham, Medfield,	Rev. Geo. H. Pratt.
Feb. 27	James B. Bussey, Millie E. Pray,	Medfield, Natick,	Rev. J. P. Sheafe, Jr., South Natick.
April 6	Walter Bennett, Dora Frances Monk,	Omaha, Neb. Medfield,	Rev. J. H. Gilbert.
May 10	Melvin L. Park, Bertie C. Walker,	Searsport, Me. Searsport, Me.	Rev. Geo. H. Pratt.
May 26	George G. Babcock, Estelle A. Brown,	Medfield, Medfield,	Rev. J. H. Gilbert.
June 18	Lester C. Bullard, Maria M. Clark,	Medfield, Medway,	Rev. C. C. Sewall.
July 6	George R. Chase, Susan M. Meade,	Medfield, Worcester,	Rev. E. H. Hall, Worcester.
July 6	Harrison V. Hall, Annette B. Dupee,	Wrentham, Medfield,	Rev. E. O. Jameson, East Medway.
July 21	John P. Coltman, Phebe J. Welles,	Medfield, Fairfield, Conn.	Rev. Mr. Burrows, Fairfield, Conn.
Aug. 16	Erastus E. Grover, Ellen F. Smith,	Medfield, Foxborough,	Rev. A. W. Jefferson.
Oct. 10	Francois X. Lupien, Laura M. Brosseau,	Medfield, Medfield,	J. B. Hale, Esq., Justice of the Peace.
Oct. 25	Ansel F. Bartlett, Maggie L. Cameron,	Swampscott, Boston,	Rev. J. H. Gilbert.
Oct. 26	Warren E. Kingsbury, Mary E. Southard,	Medfield, Rockport, Me.	Rev. Mr. Harwood, Camden, Me.
Oct. 27	Elmer B. Codding, Fannie E. Briggs,	Medfield, Medfield,	Rev. J. H. Gilbert.
Dec. 3	Theodore A. Leeds, Julia E. Pitcher,	Medfield, Camden, Me.	——— ———, at Camden.
Dec. 17	E. B. Tuell, Ada M. Stevens,	Sumner, Me. Eustis, Me.	Rev. Geo. H. Pratt.

Total, 17.

BIRTHS.

DATE.		NAME.	NAMES OF PARENTS.
Jan.	1	Otto Richard Warner.	Charles and Elizabeth W. Warner.
Jan.	22	George Willis Hardy.	Joseph and Margaret P. Hardy.
Jan.	28	Ida May Middlemas.	James and Mary A. R. Middlemas.
Feb.	5	John Joseph Wright.	Robert and Nancy C. H. Wright.
Feb.	10	Ida Louise Bullard.	Edmund and Eveline H. Bullard.
Feb.	11	Willis Merton Clark.	Frederic M. and Ida E. H. Clark.
April	9	Harold Clifford Mitchell.	George F. and Elizabeth C. Mitchell.
April	16	Henry Raymond Blake.	Charles H. and Amanda M. L. Blake.
April	27	Francis Hamant.	Francis D. and Eliza C. S. Hamant.
May	11	Daniel Roscoe Hamant.	George D. and Jane A. E. Hamant.
May	12	Foster Richardson Sweet	Washington and Henrietta C. Sweet.
May	13	Edna Louisa Gilbert.	Albion C. and Maggie G. Gilbert.
May	20	Marion Lina Wiggin.	Edward A. and Ella J. V. Wiggin.
May	26	Clarence Melvin Ricker.	George K. and Emma P. N. Ricker.
June	1	John Robert Miller.	George F. and Mary A. G. Miller.
July	28	Ella Louisa Brown.	Thomas J. and Anna L. T. Brown.
Aug.	6	Frances L. Bonney.	Eugene and Ida C. W. Bonney.
Aug.	21	Ethel Pray Bussey.	James B. and Millie E. P. Bussey.
Nov.	29	A still-born female child.	James W. and Jennie C. C. Munroe.
Dec.	14	A still-born male child.	Patrick and Lizzie C. Henley.
Dec.	15	Horace Francis Codding.	Loring J. and Margaret H. Codding.
Dec.	29	Linwood Lloyd Watkins.	Henry A. and Ida E. B. Watkins.

Total, 22.

DEATHS.

DATE.		NAME.	AGE.	DISEASE OR CAUSE OF DEATH.
Jan.	30	Mercy J. Horton,	80 yrs.	Cancer.
Jan.	31	Michael Donlan,	92 yrs.	Old age.
Feb.	7	Lucy Cutler,	89 yrs.	Old age.
Feb.	24	Herbert W. Ryan,	—— 6 mos. 2 days.	Pneumonia.
Feb.	28	Mary Jane McGrory,	9 yrs. 7 mos. 29 days.	Drowned.
March	6	Sybil M. Cheney,	63 yrs. 11 mos. 9 days.	Pneumonia.
April	20	John Hackett,	48 yrs.	Accident.
May	27	Amy P. Fiske,	76 yrs. 2 mos. 2 days.	Pneumonia.
May	31	Anna M. Fiske,	79 yrs. 5 mos. 21 days.	Pneumonia.
June	8	William M. Smith,	59 yrs. 2 mos. 18 days.	Pneumonia.
June	19	David E. Plimpton,	37 yrs. 10 mos. 2 days.	Convulsions.
July	7	George Cummings,	75 yrs. 10 mos. 1 day.	Diabetes.
Aug.	23	Ruth P. Howard,	54 yrs. 9 mos. 25 days.	Consumption.
Sept.	12	Hattie Louise Grover,	15 yrs. 4 mos. 27 days.	Consumption.
Sept.	13	Ruby Jones,	88 yrs. 11 mos. 30 days.	Old age.
Sept.	19	Henry Harding,	70 yrs. 5 mos. 11 days.	Cystitis.
Oct.	1	Caroline Fisher,	79 yrs. 10 mos. 21 days.	Old age.
Oct.	24	Nellie B. Howard,	25 yrs. 1 mo.	Consumption.
Nov.	8	Cynthia M. Clark,	84 yrs. 8 mos. 2 days.	Apoplexy.
Dec.	1	Eunice M. Plimpton,	63 yrs. 3 mos. 14 days.	Pneumonia.
Dec.	6	Betsy F. Plimpton,	83 yrs. 4 mos. 23 days.	Bronchitis.
Dec.	7	Ednah L. Gilbert,	—— 6 mos. 25 days.	Whooping Cough.

Total, 22.

Over 90 years of age, ...	1	Between 40 and 50 years of age, .	1
Between 80 and 90 years of age, .	5	Between 30 and 40 years of age, .	1
Between 70 and 80 years of age, .	5	Between 20 and 30 years of age, .	1
Between 60 and 70 years of age, .	2	Between 10 and 20 years of age, .	1
Between 50 and 60 years of age, .	2	Under 10 years of age, ...	3

CHARLES C. SEWALL, *Registrar.*

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In obedience to the statutes of the Commonwealth, your Committee beg leave to present the following report:—

We have endeavored to perform the duties which you have laid upon us to the best of our judgment and ability, and have been rewarded by witnessing a commendable progress in the schools generally. At the close of the school year in June last, the results of the written examinations by the committee, together with the known character of the daily management and the aspect of the schools in their closing exercises, gave assurance that the year had been one of the most successful in our educational annals.

In a matter so important as the education and training of an advancing generation, especially when educational experts themselves are as wide asunder as the poles in regard to what is best, it cannot be expected that there should be entire unanimity of opinion in any community with regard to school matters. But we are glad to bear testimony to the general feeling of satisfaction which has been manifest among our people, and to the absence of that spirit of harsh and bitter criticism, which, when indulged, as it is in many towns, is so great a hindrance to the success of public schools.

TEACHERS.

We have been favored with fewer changes in the corps of teachers than is usual with us, all but one of those at present employed having been with us one or more years previously. When such is the case, the schools move on with much less hazard and loss of time than when compelled to a frequent change of instructors.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

For several winters past, it has been found impossible to make the Centre School-house comfortable in the coldest weather. Last fall, a small portable furnace was put in, to be used as supplementary to the large furnace in days of severest cold, as also to warm more thoroughly the lower anteroom which is at present unavoidably used for recitations. Storm windows are also placed

during the winter on the north side of the building. By this means, the seats for pupils on that side are made entirely comfortable when north winds are blowing, which was not the case before. No extraordinary repairs have been made upon the North and South School-houses.

THE COURSE OF STUDY.

Last year, we reported that a course of study had been prepared and adopted as a basis for the instruction in all the schools. We are more and more satisfied of the necessity of such a plan, and can say that its adoption has been justified by the results. With the exception of the lower classes in the Centre School, which are prevented by their present circumstances from following it fully, it has been beneficial by unifying the instruction in all the schools. The same system of classification is retained; and, in the conditions of our schools, no change in this respect appears to be needed.

NORTH SCHOOL.

This school is happily in its second year under the management of Miss Elizabeth B. Bowers, whose experience and skill as a teacher are manifesting themselves in the constant improvement of the school in various respects. We have not seen this school in so good a condition for many years as at present.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

Mr. Samuel N. Bentley closed his connection with this school in June, with results creditable to him as a teacher. We then secured the services of Mr. C. F. Merrick, a graduate of Bridgewater Normal School, who entered on his work in September. His success has thus far been gratifying. The number of pupils in this school is at present quite small; but the difficulty of maintaining sufficient enthusiasm in this case is met by extra effort on the part of the teacher.

UPPER SCHOOL, CENTRE.

The promise of a successful year under Mr. C. N. Bentley's instruction was abundantly realized, and he was engaged for the third year. A considerable number of the advanced pupils having graduated, and a small class only from the intermediate school being in readiness for promotion, and few pupils coming this year from the North or South Schools to the advanced course, this school is temporarily smaller than the probable average. A con-

siderable number of pupils, it is expected, will be in readiness to enter this school in the fall term. The smallness of numbers, however, does not at all diminish the number of recitations or the amount of labor required of the teacher, which is still quite as much as one teacher can do well.

Five recent graduates of this school are now pursuing their studies at the Framingham Normal School, where they take rank very creditably to themselves and to the school from which they came.

INTERMEDIATE AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS, CENTRE.

The closing day in these schools last June was one of satisfaction to those who attended the exercises of that occasion. Both Miss Richards and Mrs. Dunn were engaged for another year.

During the vacation, the selectmen, in obedience to a vote of the town, removed the partition which separated the primary from the intermediate room. The fall term opened with one room for two teachers and eighty-six pupils. Since that time, the teachers have worked as best they might under the circumstances. But many exercises, which are regarded of vital importance in all good schools, must now be entirely omitted, and in every branch the progress has been much delayed.

The anteroom is altogether too small for the proper instruction of the classes in this school, besides being poorly lighted and ventilated; and the time of the teacher left in charge of the schoolroom, while instructing her class, is largely frittered away by the extra discipline she is obliged to exercise. The teachers have worked together with entire unanimity of feeling and effort, yet the character and influence of the discipline is less salutary than under the previous arrangement. It cannot be of the kind most desirable for the youngest children; for the freedom which the little ones should have, if permitted with twice the numbers and with older pupils, becomes unbearable disorder, fatal to satisfactory school work.

The welfare of these eighty-six children demands that some provision be made for their suitable accommodation.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The sum appropriated heretofore — namely, $2,400 — will, in our judgment, be sufficient for the needs of this department for the ensuing year.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of those not Absent or Tardy for the whole of One Term.

Paulina F. Allen, Warren E. Newell, Alice M. Wight, Amos H. Mason, Irving Crosby, Bennie Crehore, Edward Franks, Willie Gilbert, Freddie Gamble, Robert Hardy, John Meany, Mary Sweet, Marion Leeds, Jennie Johnston, Eddie Abell, John Gamble, Eddie Morrill, Fred Morrill, Manford Sweet, Fred Wood, Vettie Allen, Addie Briggs, Pearl Brigham, Flora Crane, Lizzie Cromwell, Alice Fitzgerald, Alice Franks, Annie Morrill, Ellen Meany, Florence Pettis, Arthur Guild, John Martin, Orra Guild, Sammie Guild, Annie Guild, Mary Lambert, Allie Clark, Waldo Kingsbury.

Names of those not Absent or Tardy for Two Terms.

Cora Crosby, Alex Daniels, George Wilson, Agnes Crane, Willis Ricker, Fred Dix, Minnie Crosby, May Hamant, Delano Hamant, Mary Babcock.

Names of those not Absent or Tardy for Three Terms.

Cassie Sullivan, Affie Hanks.

SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1881–82.

Schools.	Length of School in Weeks.			Wages of Teachers per Month.			Whole No. of Scholars.			Average Attendance.			No. of Scholars under 5 years of age.	No. of different Scholars over 15 years of age.
	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.		
Upper, ...	11	14	13	$80.00	$90.00	$90.00	43	39	37	35	35	30	0	12
Grammar, . . .	11	14	13	36.00	36.00	36.00	39	39	37	32	34	32	0	0
Primary, ...	11	14	13	36.00	36.00	36.00	41	47	46	32	35	30	0	0
North, ...	11	14	13	36.00	36.00	36.00	32	26	30	29	24	27	0	2
South, ...	11	14	13	36.00	36.00	36.00	26	24	21	23	19	18	0	0

J. B. HALE,
W. S. TILDEN,
WILLIAM. F. GUILD, } *School Committee.*

TOWN WARRANT.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

NORFOLK, ss.

HINSDALE F. BULLARD, one of the constables of the town of Medfield, *Greeting:*

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Medfield, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Medfield, on Monday, the sixth day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles: —

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting. J. Fish

ART. 2. To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

ART. 3. To hear the Annual Reports of the Selectmen and other town officers, and act thereon.

ART. 4. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges for the ensuing year, and make appropriations of the same.

ART. 5. To determine the manner of repairing the highways, town-ways, and bridges for the year ensuing.

ART. 6. To determine the mode of collecting the taxes for the year ensuing. 1/10 of 1/2 ~~cent~~ per. ct

ART. 7. To see if the town will authorize the Collector to charge interest; and, if so, what interest upon all taxes remaining unpaid after the first day of December next.

ART. 8. To see if the town will authorize the Collector to make use of all such means for collecting the taxes, as the Treasurer would, if appointed Collector.

ART. 9. To see if the town will accept the list of jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.

Art. 10. To see if the town will authorize the Overseers of the Poor to hire a keeper of the Almshouse for the year 1883.

Art. 11. To see if the town will, by its vote or otherwise, ask the Legislature to extend to women, who are citizens, the right to vote in town affairs, and to hold town offices, on the same terms as male citizens. dismissed the article

Art. 12. To see if the town will, or will not, authorize licenses to be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town during the ensuing year. no 84. yes 5

Art. 13. To hear the report of the committee chosen at the last annual meeting, to consider the expediency of publishing a history of the town, and to act anything relating thereto.

Art. 14. To see if the town will make any appropriation for the expenses of Decoration Day. $50.

Art. 15. To see if the town will make any appropriation for the Public Library for the year ensuing. $100. & dog fund

Art. 16. To see if the town will amend and add to the By-laws of the town, or act anything relating thereto. dis cretion of Selectmen

Art. 17. To see if the town will hire a night watch for the ensuing year, or act anything relating thereto. no

Art. 18. To see if the town will accept and adopt the report of the Selectmen recommending the widening and relocating of West Mill Street, and the discontinuing of portions of the street as originally laid out, or act anything in relation thereto.

Art. 19. To see if the town will defend the suit of Jane Johnston against Charles Dunn, now pending in the Superior Court for Norfolk County, and employ counsel for that purpose, or act anything relating thereto. Dismissed the article

Art. 20. To see if the town will build a new primary school-house, or make suitable accommodations for the primary school in the centre of the town, and grant money for the same, or act any thing relating thereto. Dismissed

Art. 21. To see if the town will build a school-house in the eastern end of the town, or act anything relating thereto. Dismissed

Art. 22. To see if the town will pay the heirs of Moses Bullard for land, taken to widen Pleasant Street, at the same rate per rod as was paid the heirs of James Hewins, or act anything relating thereto.

Art. 23. To see if the town will determine the compensation of the Fire Department for the ensuing year.

Art. 24. To see if the town will take any action in regard to the danger resulting from the sliding of snow from the roof of the Town Hall.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up an attested copy thereof in the usual place for posting warrants in the town of Medfield, ten days, at least, before the time for holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this twentieth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

HAMLET WIGHT,
GEO. W. KINGSBURY,
WM. F. GUILD,
} *Selectmen of Medfield.*